

EDWARD SOUTHWICK

Biography from the Lehi Centennial History

Edward Southwick, who was the son of Edward Southwick and Mary Alexander, was born April 24, 1842 at Dudley, Worcestershire, England. His father not being in the best of circumstances, Edward was put to work in a glass factory, at Sponlane, where he worked for a number of years, becoming quite proficient in his line of work.

He afterwards learned the shoe making business from his father and also mastered this occupation. After working with, his father for a number of years in Westbromwich, he went to Northhampton, where he was engaged in the Mansfield shoe factory, the largest in the world at that time. He afterward went to Norwich, where he was foreman in a small factory. From here he migrated to this country in the year 1871 on the steamship, "Nevada," which left Liverpool July 26, with 93 Saints under the direction of Lot Smith and arrived at Salt Lake City, August 16.

He then came direct to Lehi and not having sufficient work to occupy his time and make a living at his trade, he engaged in the construction work on the railroad that was being built up American Fork Canyon that year.

When the railroad was completed, he engaged as a cook at the old Miller Mine in American Fork Canyon, and worked as such for a number of years, going then to Alta in Big Cottonwood Canyon where he was offered better wages. He commenced to work at his trade about the year 1876 and continued in this occupation the remainder of his life, and all of the early settlers will remember him from the fact that he made footwear for them all.

He was baptized in the year 1854 by Elder John White, was ordained an elder, and did some missionary work in his native land. He was ordained a seventy May 14, 1876, by William Clark, and was a member of the 68th quorum of seventy up to the time of his death.

He was also a member of the School Board at the time of his death, the only public trust he ever held. He was married to Ann Maria Taylor, February 18, 1866, in the old parish church of Dudley, England, and became the father of nine children.

His eldest son Arthur James, who appears in the accompanying picture on his father's knee, was born March 24, 1876, at Birmingham, England. This picture was the only one Edward Southwick ever posed for. He was a man of great faith and rejoiced in visiting and administering to the sick. He died very suddenly on October 30, 1888, being sick only eight hours.